COMMUNITY

Page 7 – Detroit River Nonprofit Targets Wetlands Loss with Island Habitat Restoration

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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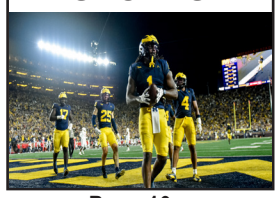
SPORTS



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La Junta de Nominaciones Históricas propondrá el Distrito Histórico Bagley-West Vernor

Por Michael D. Gutierrez

Una nominación para incluir partes de West Vernor y Bagley en el National Register of Historic Places (el registro nacional de sitios históricos de Estados Unidos) ya está en camino a revisión federal. De aprobarse, abriría la puerta a créditos fiscales y fondos de preservación para los negocios que han sido el corazón de nuestro barrio por generaciones.

La City Council Historic Designation Advisory Board (HDAB) – la junta asesora del Concejo Municipal que se encarga de recomendar designaciones históricas – presentará la nominación final del Bagley-West Vernor Historic District en una reunión pública el próximo jueves 11 de septiembre a las 4 PM en las oficinas de Mexicantown CDC (al lado del Secretary of State y el Michigan Welcome Center). La propuesta incluye ambos lados de Bagley y W. Vernor Hwy., desde la calle 16 hasta Ferdinand. Entre los lugares recomendados están Mexican Village, Tamalería Nuevo León, Xochimilco y Honey Bee Market La Colmena, que además podrían ser reconocidos de forma individual. La zona se une a otros vecindarios del suroeste de Detroit, como Hubbard Farms, que recibió la designación de distrito histórico local en 1993, al obtener un reconocimiento

[Left to right] Mexican Village Restaurant, 2600-2620 Bagley. LASED, 4138 West Vernor. Honey Bee Market, 2437-2443 Bagley. (Kraemer Design Group, 2023)

Continúa en la página 2

Historic Designation Advisory Board to nominate Bagley-West Vernor Historic District

By Michael D. Gutierrez

A nomination to add parts of W. Vernor and Bagley to the National Register of Historic Places is heading to federal review, which could unlock tax credits and preservation grants for business owners who have anchored our neighborhood for generations.

Detroit's Historic Designation Advisory Board (HDAB) will present the finished Bagley-West Vernor Historic District nomination at a public meeting next Thursday, September 11, at 4 PM at the Mexicantown CDC offices (next to the Secretary of State and Michigan Welcome Center).

From 16th to Ferdinand, both sides of Bagley and W. Vernor Hwy. would join the National Register, with establishments including Mexican Village, Tamaleria Nuevo Leon, Xochimilco, and Honey Bee Market recommended to be individually listed. The area joins other Southwest Detroit neighborhoods like Hubbard Farms, which received local historic district status in 1993, in gaining formal recognition for its historical significance

The public meeting is a chance for residents to voice their thoughts on the nomination and understand the financial opportunities federal recognition would create,

Continues on page 2

Los representantes de la comunidad han sido elegidos para el proceso de beneficios comunitarios del estadio DCFC

Por Santiago Esparza

Brianna Williamson ha defendido a sus vecinos en numerosas ocasiones y ahora tendrá la oportunidad de hacerlo de nuevo a mayor escala.

La estratega de marca y diseñadora visual de 39 años, preside la Asociación de Vecinos de North Corktown y fue elegida la semana pasada para formar parte del Neighborhood Advisory Council -Consejo Asesor Vecinal (NAC) para un proyecto de estadio de fútbol profesional de 150 millones de dólares.

Ella y Martina Guzmán, periodista galardonada, nativa del suroeste de Detroit, fueron elegidas por los residentes de las zonas que se verán afectadas por el proyecto en la avenida Michigan y la calle 20. La Ordenanza de Beneficios Comunitarios de Detroit exige que el consejo participe para que el promotor solicite más de un millón de dólares en deducciones fiscales.

"Esta es una inversión importante que se extenderá más allá de los límites de Corktown", dijo Williamson. "Todos sentiremos el impacto, pero no necesariamente todos los beneficios". El Detroit City Football Club ha propuesto la construcción del estadio, un estacionamiento adyacente, nuevas viviendas y espacio comercial en el terreno del antiguo Hospital del Suroeste de Detroit. El hospital, actualmente vacío, deberá ser demolido.

El Ayuntamiento de Detroit aprobó reembolsar al club hasta 5,9 millones de dólares por la demolición del edificio. El club aún está en proceso de solicitar las reducciones fiscales y no ha declarado públicamente el monto de la desgravación fiscal que busca para el proyecto.

Sin embargo, funcionarios del club y de la ciudad afirmaron que el proyecto cuenta con financiación privada, sin participación directa de fondos públicos.

El cofundador y portavoz del club, Sean Mann, afirmó que el club pagará impuestos sobre la propiedad, siendo el único equipo profesional con estadio en la ciudad que lo hace. Vive a poca distancia del estadio, al igual que otro cofundador.

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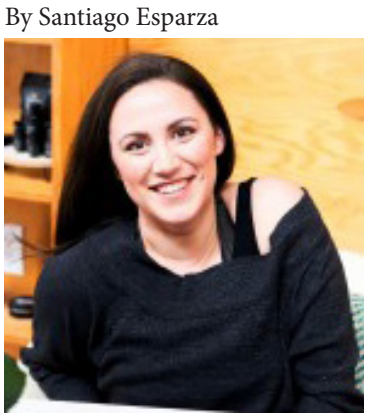
Community Representatives Selected for DCFC Stadium Community Benefits Process

By Santiago Esparza



Brianna Williamson (L) and Martina Guzman (R) were the two residents elected to represent the community

Bre Williamson has stood up for her neighbors on numerous occasions and now will have a chance to do so again on a larger scale.

The 39-year-old brand strategist and visual designer is president of the North Corktown Neighborhood Association and was elected last week to serve on the Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) for a $150 million professional soccer stadium project.

She and Martina Guzman, a Southwest Detroit native and award-winning journalist, were elected by residents from areas that will be affected by the project at Michigan Avenue and 20th Street. The council is required by the Detroit Community Benefits Ordinance in order for the developer to apply for more than $1million in tax abatements.

"This is a major investment coming in that will extend beyond the boundaries of Corktown," Williamson said. "We are all going to feel the impact of this, but not necessarily all the benefits."

The Detroit City Football Club has proposed the stadium, an adjacent parking structure, new housing and commercial space on the site of the former Southwest Detroit Hospital. The vacant hospital will need to be razed.

The Detroit City Council approved reimbursing the club up to $5.9 million for the demolition of the building. The club still is in the process of applying for the abatements and have not publicly stated how much of a tax break they are seeking for the project.

However, club and city officials said the project is privately funded with no direct public money involved.

Club cofounder and spokesman Sean Mann said the club will pay property taxes, the only professional team with a stadium in the city doing so. He lives walking distance from the stadium as does another cofounder.

"There are no billionaires involved with this project," Mann said. "There are no public bonds."

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Bagley-West Vernor busca reconocimiento histórico federal

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formal por su importancia histórica.

La reunión será una oportunidad para que residentes den su opinión y conozcan los beneficios económicos que esta designación podría traer. Con la aprobación, los dueños de propiedades podrían recuperar hasta un 45% de los gastos de renovación a través de créditos fiscales, además de solicitar fondos para mejorar fachadas y financiar proyectos comunitarios.

Esta nominación corona un esfuerzo de cuatro años de la HDAB para documentar historias de comunidades poco representadas en la ciudad. La District 6 Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero impulsó el proyecto al solicitar un subsidio federal, señalando que la comunidad necesitaba "un Latinx historic context study que nos ayude a levantar nuestras historias y nuestro impacto."

Entre abril y octubre de 2023, Cassandra Talley, Lillian Candela y Katie Cook, del Kraemer Design Group, encuestaron 48 sitios señalados por la comunidad, de los cuales 10 recibieron documentación más profunda. Los resultados quedaron en un informe de 130 páginas titulado "Survey of Detroit's Latinx Communities, 1915-1980", disponible en español y inglés. https://tinyurl.com/5brb4bnz

"La comunidad destacó cómo los mercados, restaurantes, tiendas y organizaciones fundadas por inmigrantes latinoamericanos en Bagley y West Vernor consolidaron su presencia en el suroeste de Detroit," señaló la HDAB al anunciar la nominación final.

A diferencia de los distritos históricos locales, que restringen cambios a las fachadas y requieren aprobación de la ciudad, la designación federal es honoraria: no limita modificaciones, pero sí abre acceso a incentivos financieros que muchos pequeños negocios no podrían conseguir de otra manera.

Con este reconocimiento, los dueños de propiedades podrían recuperar casi la mitad de sus gastos de renovación: 20% en créditos fiscales federales más hasta 25% del programa estatal de Michigan. En otros casos en Detroit, restaurantes han usado estos incentivos para renovar cocinas, agregar accesibilidad y restaurar fachadas antiguas—todo mientras mantienen la esencia arquitectónica que atrae clientes.

El proceso lo maneja la State Historic Preservation Office (la oficina estatal encargada de la preservación histórica), que suele responder en 3 a 6 meses. Los créditos se reciben una vez terminada la construcción y aprobada la revisión estatal. Además, se pueden solicitar subsidios competitivos para estudios de fachadas, programas educativos y proyectos comunitarios. En Bagley, el Mexicantown Community Development Corporation (2835 Bagley) ayuda a los negocios locales a navegar el papeleo.

Según un estudio de la Michigan Historic Preservation Network (2016), las propiedades dentro de distritos históricos tienden a aumentar su valor en un 12.6% más que las áreas sin designación. https://tinyurl.com/3td5md2h

Después de la presentación del 11 de septiembre, la HDAB enviará la nominación al National Park Service (la agencia federal que administra los parques nacionales y el registro histórico), encargado de la decisión final. El proceso federal tarda normalmente entre 6 y 12 meses, y la mayoría de nominaciones apoyadas por la comunidad suelen aprobarse.

El National Register of Historic Places ha reconocido más de 100,000 sitios en todo el país en los últimos 59 años. De aprobarse, este distrito se sumaría a esa lista nacional, honrando la importancia del suroeste de Detroit en la historia de los latinos en Estados Unidos.

La propuesta cubre específicamente los corredores comerciales de Bagley y West Vernor entre las calles 16 y Ferdinand, como dos áreas históricas separadas.

Además, la encuesta comunitaria identificó otros 14 sitios individuales en el suroeste recomendados para nominaciones futuras, cada uno con su propio proceso.

Sitios dentro del propuesto Bagley-West Vernor Historic District:

Ver la lista de abajo

Otros sitios recomendados para designación individual:

Ver la lista de abajo

Líderes comunitarios esperan que este reconocimiento federal fortalezca esfuerzos de preservación más amplios, como establecer un museo o archivo del vecindario y recopilar más historias orales de residentes.

"Vamos a tener un Latinx historic site designado en la ciudad, con nuestras historias preservadas para las futuras generaciones," dijo Santiago-Romero al inicio del proyecto.

Para preguntas sobre la reunión del 11 de septiembre o sobre cómo acceder a historic tax credits, contacte a la planificadora Kelsey Maas en kelsey.maas@detroitmi.gov.

Ayuntamiento de Cuidad de Detroit
Junta Asesora de Designación Histórica
PROYECTO DE HISTORIA LANTINX DE SOUTHWEST DETROIT
¡Reunión Comunitaria!
¡Los corredores comerciales Bagley y West Vernor están siendo nominados al Registro Nacional de Lugares Históricos!
¡Infórmate sobre el proyecto y comparte tus opiniones!
11 de septiembre, 2025
4:00PM
Mexicantown CDC
2835 Bagley St.
Detroit, MI 48216
¿Preguntas? Por favor envíe un correo electrónico:
Kelsey Maas - kelsey.maas@detroitmi.gov
Ian Tomashik - ian.tomashik@detroitmi.gov
¡ESCANÉAME PARA SABER MÁS!

City Council Historic Designation Advisory Board to nominate Bagley-West Vernor

Continued from page 1

especially since approval would mean real money for property improvements. Business owners could recover up to 45% of renovation expenses through tax credits, while also competing for grants to enhance building facades and fund community projects.

The nomination caps a four-year initiative by HDAB to document underrepresented community histories citywide. District 6 Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero pushed for the federal grant, arguing the community needed "a Latinx historic context study to help us uplift our stories and our impact."

From April through October 2023, Cassandra Talley, Lillian Candela, and Katie Cook of the Kraemer Design Group surveyed 48 sites identified by community members, with 10 receiving intensive documentation. The researchers noted their findings in a 130 page survey entitled "Survey of Detroit's Latinx Communities, 1915-1980," which is available to read in English and Spanish. https://tinyurl.com/yeyr7xyz

"Community members noted how the markets, restaurants, stores, and social service groups that Latin American immigrants founded along Bagley and W. Vernor solidified their community's presence in Southwest Detroit," the Historic Designation Advisory Board stated in announcing the completed nomination.

National Register listing is honorary and doesn't restrict property modifications, unlike local historic districts that require city approval for exterior changes. Instead, the designation opens access to financial incentives many small business owners couldn't otherwise pursue.

Property owners can recover nearly half their renovation costs through layered incentives: 20% from federal historic tax credits plus up to 25% from Michigan's state program. Local examples include Detroit restaurants that upgraded their kitchens, added accessibility features, and restored vintage storefronts—all while maintaining the architectural character that attracts customers.

The state preservation office handles applications, usually responding within 3-6 months to proposals that show respect for historic elements like original facades and distinctive architectural features. Business owners collect their credits once construction wraps up and passes state review.

Competitive preservation grants also become available for facade studies, educational programs, and community projects. The Mexicantown Community Development Corporation at 2835 Bagley helps local business owners navigate the application processes.

Research shows historic districts typically increase property values by 12.6% compared to non-designated areas, according to a 2016 Michigan Historic Preservation Network study. https://tinyurl.com/3td5md2h

After the September 11 presentation, HDAB will submit the nomination to the National Park Service for final review and approval. The federal process typically takes 6-12 months, with most community-supported nominations ultimately approved.

The National Register of Historic Places has honored more than 100,000 historic sites across the country over the past fifty-nine years. The proposed district would join this national list as recognition of Southwest Detroit's role in Latino American history.

The September 11 presentation focuses specifically on the Bagley-West Vernor Historic District—the commercial corridors between 16th and Ferdinand Streets that would gain recognition as two separate historic areas.

Separately, the community survey identified 14 individual sites throughout Southwest Detroit that researchers recommend for future National Register nominations. These sites, scattered across the broader neighborhood, would require individual applications and separate approval processes.

Sites within the proposed Bagley-West Vernor Historic District:

- Mexican Village Restaurant
- Honey Bee Market La Colmena
- Tamaleria Nuevo Leon
- Xochimilco

Additional Southwest Detroit sites recommended for individual National Register listing:

- Most Holy Redeemer Church
- Clark Park
- Hispanos Unidos
- Casa Maria
- Western International High School
- Bowen Branch Library
- YMCA Western Branch
- Rio Theater
- Webster Elementary School

Community advocates hope federal recognition will support broader preservation efforts, including establishing a neighborhood museum or archive and conducting additional oral history projects to capture more resident experiences.

"We will have a designated Latinx historic site in the city, along with our stories captured for generations," Santiago-Romero said when the project began.

For questions about the September 11 meeting or accessing historic tax credits, contact Historic Planner Kelsey Maas at kelsey.maas@detroitmi.gov or 313.224.3487.

Michael D. Gutierrez is the Digital Content Manager for EL CENTRAL Hispanic News. He is a screenwriter and filmmaker with a decade of experience in the television and film industry, contributing to projects including THE HOLDOVERS and LETHAL WEAPON on Fox. He is an active member of the Writers Guild of America-West and its Latino Writers Committee.

This article was made possible thanks to a generous grant to EL CENTRAL Hispanic News by Press Forward, the national movement to strengthen communities by reinvigorating local news. Learn more at www.pressforward.news.

Detroit City Council
Historic Designation Advisory Board
SOUTHWEST DETROIT LANTINX HISTORY PROJECT
Community Meeting!
The Bagley and West Vernor commercial corridors are being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places!
Learn about the project and share your thoughts!
September 11, 2025
4:00PM
Mexicantown CDC
2835 Bagley St.
Detroit, MI 48216
Questions? Please email:
Kelsey Maas - kelsey.maas@detroitmi.gov
Ian Tomashik - ian.tomashik@detroitmi.gov
SCAN ME TO LEARN MORE!

Ignacio Gonzalez December 16, 1930 – August 29, 2025

Ziggy Gonzalez-A Lifetime of Education and Activism

Editor's Note: We learned about the passing of Ignacio "Ziggy" Gonzalez (December 16, 1930 – August 29, 2025) from our friends at Western International High School. Ziggy was a favorite with students and faculty at Wilson Junior High School and Western High School where he also coached baseball. He started several hockey teams, eventaully becaming one of the first driving members of the Clark Park Coalition. He was a catalyst for promoting Clark Park and did all he could to make it flourish, to the point he was called "Mr. Clark Park".

Juan Carlos Sanchez said of Ziggy, "We have suffered a tremendous loss. Know, Ziggy, that all you did for so many generations of students and our community is not unnoticed. Southwest Detroit salutes you." Steve Tococman said he himself is a more generous and graceful person from watching how Ziggy treated others. "I am not sure one could be a better human being than Ziggy Gonzalez," Tococman said. Robert Tave called him "a voice of understanding."

To commemorate the life and legacy of Ziggy Gonzalez, we are reprinting a column written by Ozzie Rivera about Ziggy that was originally published in EL CENTRAL Hispanic News November 2020.

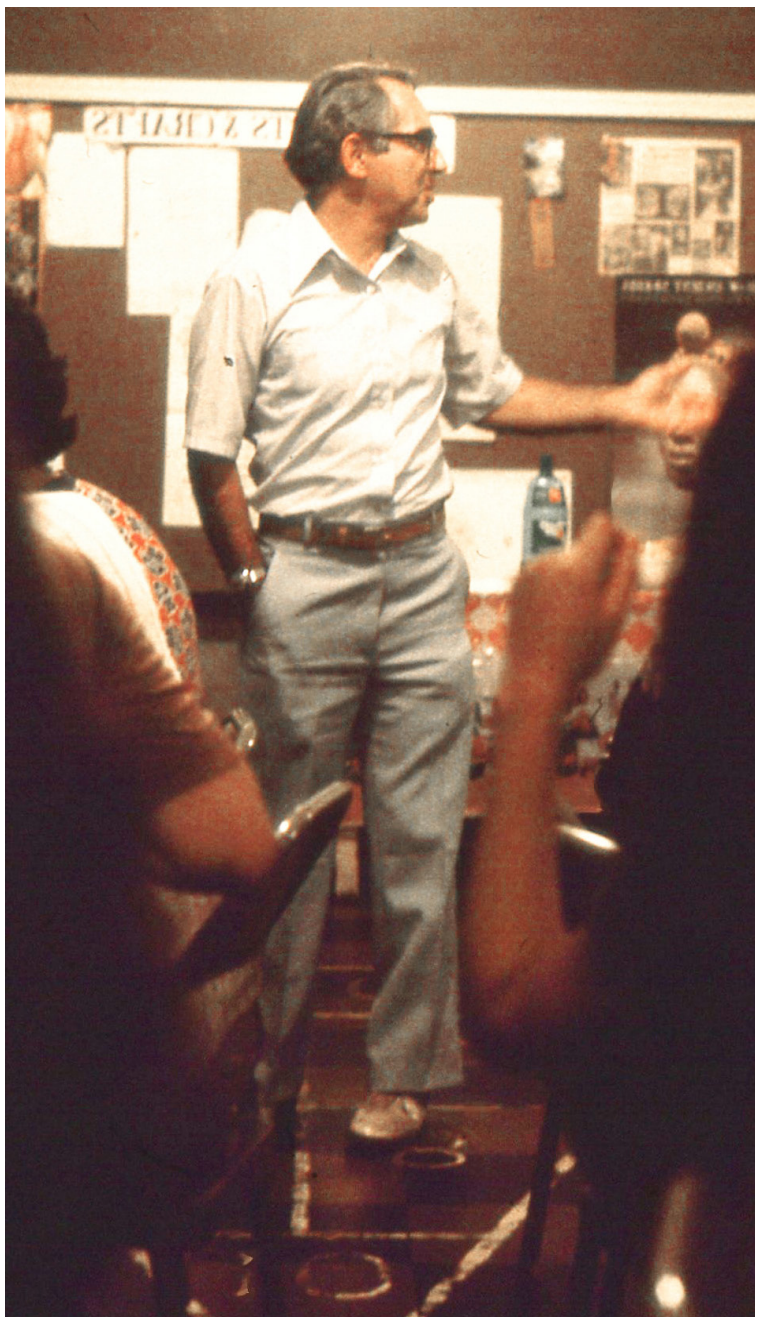
Pensamientos y Recuerdos

I recently had a conversation with long-time friend and activist Ignacio "Ziggy" Gonzalez during which we reflected on his lifetime of activism. Ziggy has had a major influence on so many of us who call or use to call southwest Detroit our home. Over the decades he has been a social studies teacher, a baseball & hockey coach, community organizer and one of the founding members of the Clark Park Coalition. As many of you may know Clark Park is considered one of Detroit's community-based recreational treasures yet many do not know that in the early 90's the City of Detroit was ready to close it down. Then city officials met the ire of a number of community residents and activists, such as Deb Sumner and Ziggy Gonzalez which stopped those plans dead in its tracks. And as the saying goes "the rest is history".

During the late 70's I ran a youth center, sponsored by Latino Community Outreach Services (later to assume the name of Latino Family Services), located on West Grand Blvd and Porter not far from Clark Park and Western High where Ziggy was a well-liked social studies teacher. Our youth often talked highly of "Ziggy" and the fact that he really cared about students.

The philosophy guiding the youth center was a "Youth for Youth" empowerment strategy which they truly took to heart. Through their own initiative a teacher mentoring program was set up after they spoke to Ziggy and a few other teachers at Western.

It soon became evident these teachers were committed to the young people and truly cared for them. I would even say they loved the students. Ziggy was a standout even among this truly extraordinary group. Our friendship took off from that point and has only grown over the years. The fact that Ziggy was an avid jazz and music fan enhanced that friendship. After learning of my musical interests he would often seek me out to talk about music. I for my part loved to hear the stories he told of the West End Hotel, which housed a well-known jazz venue during the 50's and early 60's located in our southwest Detroit's DelRay community and of his friendships with a number of well-known jazz musicians who also happened to be Detroit Public Schools (DPS) music instructors during the heyday of DPS' music program. A program that influenced so many students who would later become famous Motown and jazz artists. He was particularly close to Ben Pruitt, the renowned big band jazz director who would eventually become director of DPS' music department. Reflecting on why Jazz had such a great impact on him he simply stated "Jazz opened up my world because it is the only "free" music which allows for freedom of expression."



If you ever have had the good fortune of sitting down with him you quickly found out that he readily breaks into telling jokes and getting everyone into a laughing mood. As he has stated on numerous occasions he appreciates "true friendship" because he believes it is something money can't buy.

Come December he will be 90 years young. He spoke about the deep impact his family had on him. His dad was raised on a farm in Jalisco Mexico and came to Detroit in 1924. His mother, a school teacher from Guadalajara Mexico followed in 1928. Ziggy was born in Detroit.

Ziggy's sense of justice and activism goes back decades. He recounts that while in the Air Force in the early 50's, he was stationed in Savanna, Georgia during which time he coached a military league baseball team. His was the only integrated team, out of six. He recounts complaints were made against him leading an integrated team but nonetheless he stuck to his guns and never wavered coaching the integrated team. Remember this was even before the civil rights movement picked up steam through the south with the now famous Montgomery bus boycott. He spent 4 years in Georgia while serving in the Air Force.

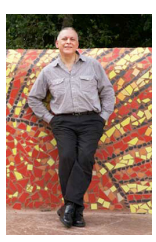
When asked about his teaching career which started in 1967, he explains he was first assigned to Wilson School in the Central & Vernor area and remained there for four years. In 1971 he was assigned to Western High School where he taught Social Studies for a total of 20 years. By the end of the 70's he also was named baseball coach and remained in that position throughout the 80's. He shared coaching responsibilities with Al Fernandez who for a number of years had served as La Sed's Youth Center director. Among the many talented players that passed through Western, which was always a contender within the Detroit Public Schools League, was Todd Cruz who would go on to play with a number of major league baseball teams.

Ziggy retired from teaching in 1989 but was soon to find himself organizing to save Clark Park as a key member of the Clark Park Coalition mentioned above. The Coalition is now considered a premier model for how to involve community members in city based recreational services. Programming at the park has steadily grown over the years and is under the current leadership of the Coalition director Anthony Benavides, a close friend and colleague of Ziggy Gonzales.

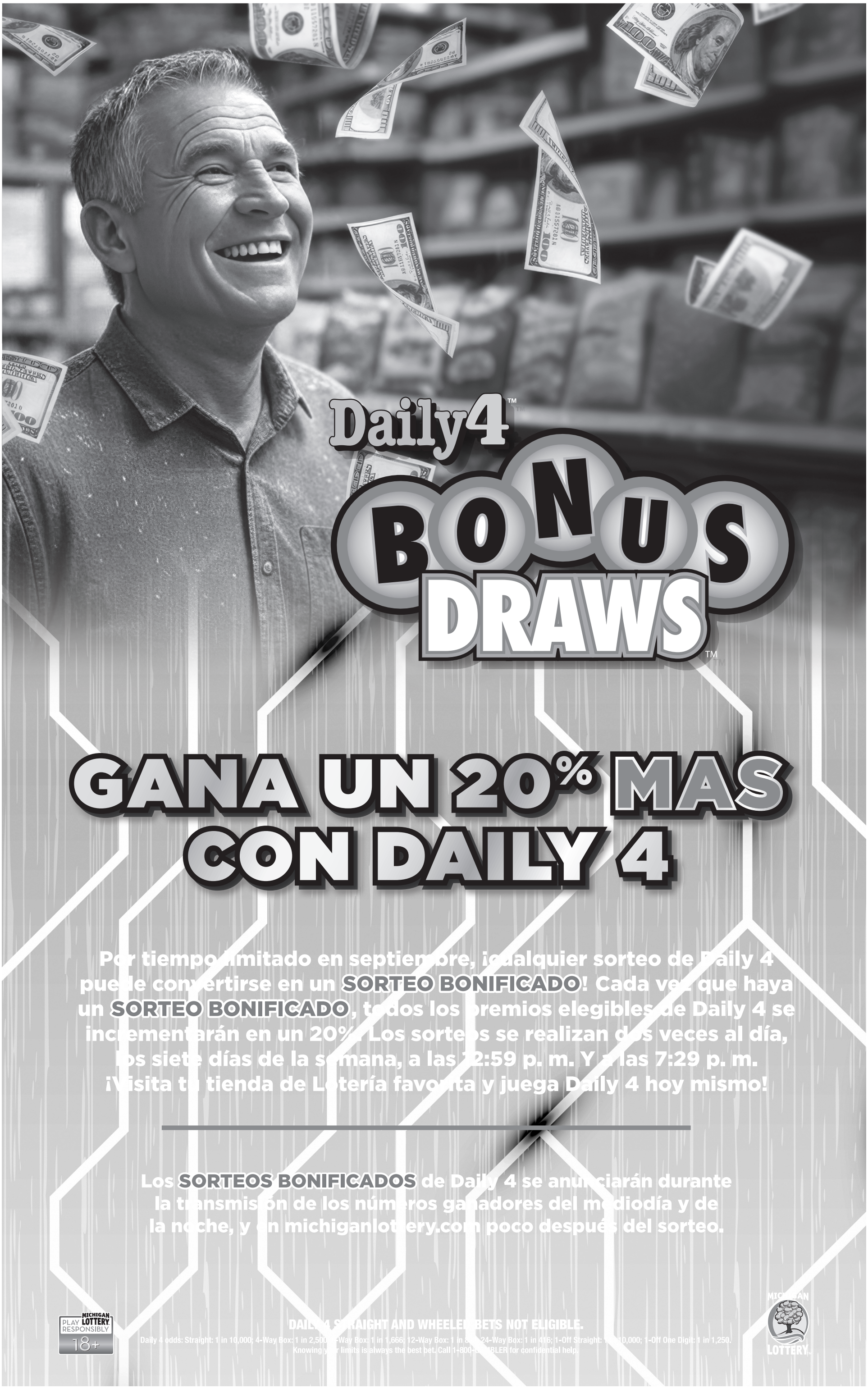
When asked what he credits his success to in organizing over the years he simply states "It is getting the right number of right people on the same page at the same time."

I asked him "If you were to look back on your work what do you believe were your best experiences?" He answered "The kids I met. I always learned from them. I had a chance to meet so many youth and their families who came from different ethnicities, races and economic situations. I love kids. Kids are honest" He continues "I have always had friends of different nationalities, ethnicities and races. Many who suffered from racism and that always bothered me. I have a strong reaction against racism and colorism. If you talk straight to people, life is not complicated..... If you don't believe it talk to kids."

For an obituary and memorial service details, visit www.martenson.com/obituaries/ignacio-gonzalez. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Angela Hospice or the Clark Park Coalition in Ziggy's honor.



Osvaldo "Ozzie" Rivera was born in Puerto Rico and has lived in Southwest Detroit most of his life. He has been active in community advocacy and human services. He served as mental health director for ACCESS (Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services), as the executive director of Latino Family Services and as Dean of Students at Wayne County Community College. He served for 10 years as the Director of Multicultural Affairs and Assistant Professor (Social Work/Sociology) at Madonna University. For four years, he led community engagement efforts for Southwest Solutions. Recently retired, he consults for a number of social service and arts organizations. Ozzie has written more than 30 columns titled Pensamientos y Recuerdos covering oral history topics and current affairs for EL CENTRAL.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MICHIGAN LOTTERY

Nominations Encouraged For Michigan Lottery's Excellence In Education Awards To Honor Outstanding Educators

Parents, students, school staff members, and others are encouraged to nominate outstanding public-school educators for the Michigan Lottery's 2025-26 Excellence In Education awards.

All public-school employees may be nominated for the Excellence In Education awards, which recognize educators who go "above and beyond" to make a difference in the lives of children. To nominate a public-school educator, go to https://www.michiganlottery.com/excellence-in-education.

"The Excellence in Education awards are our way of honoring the phenomenal work being done by educators in communities throughout Michigan," said Lottery Commissioner Suzanna Shkreli. "These dedicated professionals do so much more than teach; they are a constant, supportive presence who instill lifelong skills and inspire students to believe in themselves."

The Michigan Lottery established the Excellence in Education awards in 2014 to recognize outstanding public-school educators across the state during the school year.

One outstanding educator will be selected each week and will receive a $2,000 cash prize. At the end of the school year, one of these weekly award winners will be selected to receive the Lottery's Educator of the Year award and will receive a $10,000 cash prize.

The winner of the 2025 Educator of the Year award was Kelly Herberholz, a science teacher and administrative intern with Dakota High School in Macomb.

Hundreds of educators were nominated during the 2024-25 school year, which was the 11th year of the Excellence in Education awards program. Thirty-four of these nominees, including Herberholz, were selected to win a weekly award.

Previous winners of the Educator of the Year award:

- 2024 – Samantha TwoCrow, the director of the Indigenous Education Program for Suttons Bay Public Schools in Suttons Bay.
- 2023 – Kathryn Kluzak, a kindergarten teacher with Robert L. Green Elementary in East Lansing.
- 2022 – Spencer Vanderheide, a high school teacher with Kenowa Hills High School in Grand Rapids.
- 2021 – Janice Smith, a school social worker at Fisher Magnet Lower Academy in Detroit.
- 2020 – Megan Sidge, an Autism Spectrum Disorder teacher at Hickory Woods Elementary in Walled Lake.
- 2019 – Stewart Kieliszewski, an Earth science, biology, mechatronics, and media teacher for eighth through 12 graders at the Ubly Community Schools.
- 2018 – Kerri Moccio, a first-grade literacy intervention specialist at Bedford Elementary School in Dearborn Heights.
- 2017 – Linda Holzwarth, a social studies teacher at Portage West Middle School in Portage.
- 2016 – Daniel Carr, a Spanish and sports marketing teacher at Waverly High School in Lansing.
- 2015 – Michael Craig, a special education teacher at the Charles Drew Transition Center in Detroit.

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MICHIGAN LOTTERY

Community Representatives Selected for DCFC Stadium

Con't from pg. 1

Proponents of the project said it could benefit Corktown and Southwest Detroit by bringing the areas together for more development or improvements.

"It really is an opportunity to connect Mexicantown and Corktown," said Aaron Goodman, manager of the ordinance for the city's planning department.

Residents have concerns about parking, traffic and petty crime. Mann said the club has exceeded city regulations for parking and still Is looking to buy or lease more land for parking. The stadium capacity is 15,000 and Mann so far has about 2,600 parking spots.

Williamson said that communication, transparency and access is important to those living near the stadium site, which used to be Southwest Community Hospital.

"They want to know what is going on," she said. "Not just what they want them to know about what is going on."

There was an impressive field of people vying for the two resident seats on the advisory council. Everyone from a former city council member to small business owners to community activists were able to state their case for one of the spots before the in-person voting took place.

Detroit City Council staff and two area residents observed the vote tallying to ensure there was no tampering. The city council also will appoint three people and the planning department four people to the advisory council.

There have been 15 projects set up under the ordinance, resulting in nearly $12 billion in investments, with the city projecting to net $2 billion in the next 35 years as a result of the developments.

The public meetings usually are held at 6 p.m. on Thursdays at the Mexicantown Mercado. There will not be one this week (September 4) but meetings will resume next week, September 11. Meetings are scheduled into October.

To register for the public meetings or for more information about the project, visit www.detroitmi.gov/dcfc.

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Santiago Esparza is a Detroit-based freelance writer. He is a native of Southwest Detroit

This article was made possible thanks to a generous grant to EL CENTRAL Hispanic News by Press Forward, the national movement to strengthen communities by reinvigorating local news. Learn more at www.pressforward.news.

Representantes comunitarios seleccionados para el estadio DCFC

Con't from pg. 1

"No hay multimillonarios involucrados en este proyecto", declaró Mann. "No hay bonos públicos".

Los promotores del proyecto afirmaron que podría beneficiar a Corktown y al Suroeste de Detroit al unir las zonas para un mayor desarrollo o mejoras. "Realmente es una oportunidad para conectar Mexicantown y Corktown", dijo Aaron Goodman, gerente de la ordenanza del departamento de planificación de la ciudad.

Los residentes están preocupados por el estacionamiento, el tráfico y los delitos menores. Mann comentó que el club ha excedido las regulaciones municipales sobre estacionamiento y aún busca comprar o arrendar más terrenos. El estadio tiene capacidad para 15,000 personas y Mann cuenta hasta el momento con alrededor de 2,600 plazas de estacionamiento.

Williamson afirmó que la comunicación, la transparencia y el acceso son importantes para quienes viven cerca del estadio, que anteriormente albergaba el Southwest Community Hospital.

"Quieren saber qué está pasando", dijo. "No solo lo que quieren que sepan, sobre lo que está pasando".

Hubo una cantidad impresionante de personas compitiendo por los dos puestos de residentes en el consejo asesor. Desde un exconcejal hasta dueños de pequeños negocios y activistas comunitarios, todos pudieron presentar sus argumentos para uno de los puestos antes de la votación presencial.

Personal de la Alcaldía de Detroit y dos residentes de la zona observaron el recuento de votos para garantizar que no hubiera manipulación. El ayuntamiento también nombrará a tres personas y el departamento de planificación a cuatro, para el consejo asesor.

Se han implementado 15 proyectos bajo la ordenanza, lo que ha resultado en inversiones de casi $12 mil millones, y la ciudad proyecta obtener $2 mil millones en los próximos 35 años como resultado de estos desarrollos.

Las reuniones públicas suelen celebrarse los jueves a las 6 p. m. en el Mexicantown Mercado. No habrá ninguna esta semana (4 de septiembre), pero las reuniones se reanudarán la próxima semana, 11 de septiembre. Las reuniones están programadas hasta octubre.

Para inscribirse en las reuniones públicas o para obtener más información sobre el proyecto, visite www.detroitmi.gov/dcfc.

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Santiago Esparza es un escritor independiente radicado en Detroit. Es originario del suroeste de Detroit.

Este artículo fue posible gracias a una generosa subvención a EL CENTRAL Hispanic News por parte de Press Forward, el movimiento nacional para fortalecer las comunidades revitalizando las noticias locales. Obtenga más información en www.pressforward.news.

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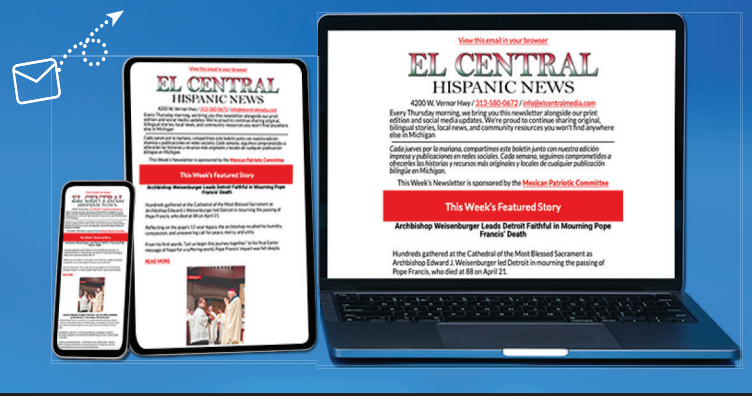


Obituary: Remembering Ken Jones

Kenneth Ray "Red Rock" Jones, 79, was born on July 11, 1946, in Spokane, Washington, to Mary Jane LaRoque Bolling and Thomas Jones, both deceased. After a valiant two-year battle with kidney and bladder cancer, he was called home by the Creator on August 10, 2025, at his home, surrounded by his loving family.

Around the age of five, Ken's family settled in Detroit, where he grew up in the 7 Mile and Evergreen area. He was a proud graduate of Henry Ford High School, Class of 1964, where he excelled in sports, especially baseball and football, earning the nickname "Number 32." His athletic talent earned him a football scholarship to the University of Buffalo, but his time there was cut short by a knee injury.

Returning to Detroit, Ken pursued his entrepreneurial ambitions. Over the years, he built successful small businesses in trucking, manufacturing, and MRO repair, serving the automotive industry. In 1981 he was certified as an MBE by the Michigan Minority Business Development Council as a Native American business enterprise and for many years was a member of MMBDC's Board of Directors, as well as many other committees. In the mid 1990's Ken became one of the founding members of the Native American Business Alliance.

Proud of his Native American heritage, Ken was an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians in Belcourt, North Dakota. His Native name, "Red Rock," reflected his spiritual strength and his deep appreciation for the Creator's beautiful bounty - from the majestic red rocks of Sedona to the rugged beauty of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Lake Superior, and its forests.

Throughout his career, Ken served on numerous boards and committees, always committed to lifting others and advancing opportunities for Native people. His proudest public service came in 1984, when Governor James Blanchard appointed him to the Michigan Commission of Indian Affairs, where he served with dedication until 1991.

Ken never met a stranger and took the time to truly listen to everyone he encountered, making each person feel valued and appreciated. Friends will tell you he was the life of every gathering, bringing laughter wherever he went. A lover of music from the '60s and '70s, he often performed his own spirited interpretations of his favorites - especially Elvis or one of the Motown greats. In his head, he was Elvis, and those who knew him wouldn't argue.

Ken also loved sports, especially his Detroit Tigers, Lions, and Red Wings. On game days, you could always find him watching - whether live or on TV - enthusiastically shouting his advice and counsel on the most recent play.

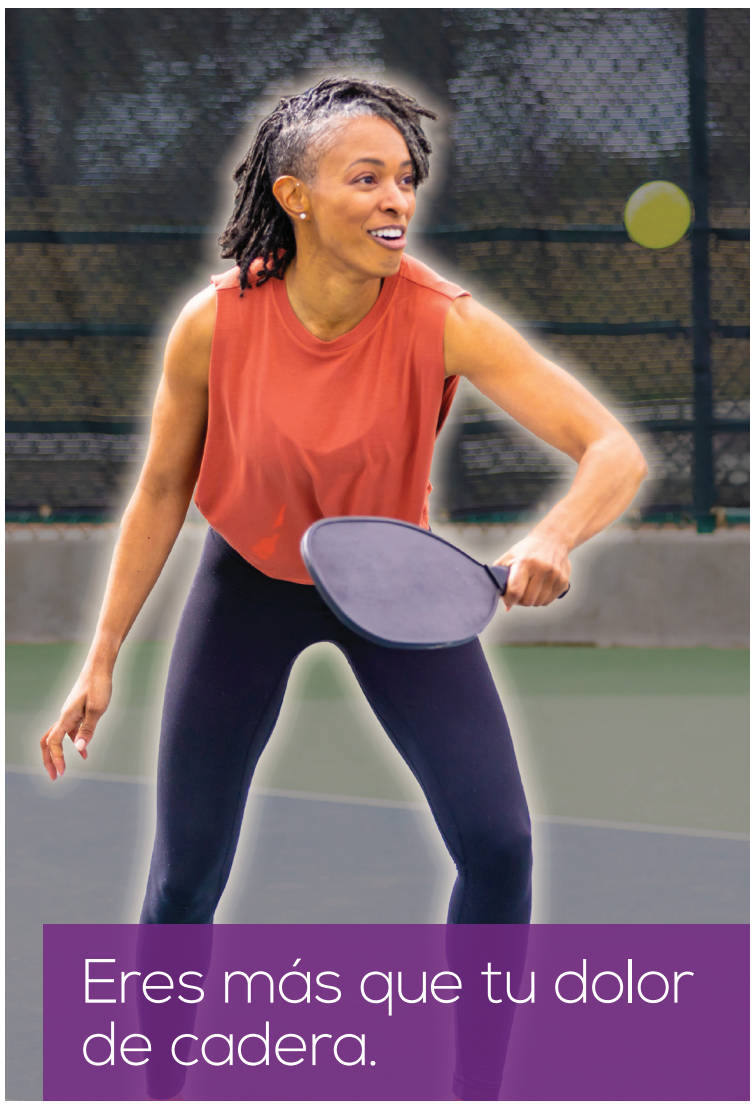
Ken was a good and loyal friend, but his greatest passion was his family. In 1992, he married the love of his life, Mary Carmen Muñoz, and never took offense at being affectionately referred to as "Mr. Muñoz." He is survived by his five children - the pride of his life - Kenny Ray (Jeanette), Kristopher Ray (Daniela Wotke), Kirk Ray (Lindsey), Maria Alejandra Jones, and KodyRay Geronimo Jones; and his adored grandchildren, Trey Politte and Axel Wotke Jones. He is also survived by his sister, Florence Bowman (Doug); nephew, Eric Bowman (Sarah); nieces, Alexis Sirrakos (George),

Lucy Muñoz Crites, Alisa Thornberry (Connor), and Sophia Crites.

Ken is predeceased by his stepfather, George Bolling; and his siblings, Thomas Jones, Geraldine Jones, and Vernon "Skip" Bolling.

Services will be held on Saturday, September 6, 2025, at Ste. Anne de Detroit Catholic Church. A memorial gathering in the church vestibule will begin at 10:00 a.m., followed by a Funeral Mass at 10:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, Ken requested that donations be made to American Indian Health and Family Services (www.aihfs.org) or LA SED (www.lasedinc.org).

Please No Suits and Ties - Wear Clothing That Celebrate Life



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Detroit River Nonprofit Targets Wetlands Loss with Island Habitat Restoration

The Detroit River lost “probably 95%” of its coastal wetlands, “particularly on the Detroit side,” says riverkeeper Bob Burns.

By Ethan Bakuli / Planet Detroit / Reprinted with permission

Aboard a boat traveling down the Detroit River, riverkeeper Bob Burns recalls a time when it was more convenient to live on one of the river’s uninhabited islands than to rent an apartment on the mainland.

“Once I got out of college, my parents moved to another location, and I needed a place to live,” said Burns, Detroit riverkeeper for the nonprofit Friends of the Detroit River, who grew up on the island of Grosse Ile in the 1960s and 1970s.

“There was a spot on Stony Island, so I lived there year round for three years, and I actually was still going to school, taking some graduate classes, so I had to get on my snowmobile in the winter to go across to where we parked on Grosse Ile to get my car and then go to school from there.”

It’s the time in Burns’ life, he said, that spawned his passion for the Detroit River and illustrated the river’s ecological importance to the region.

On a cloudy Wednesday afternoon, Burns and staff from the FODR guided tours along the lower portion of the 32-mile international river.

Local residents, environmental advocates, and elected officials were invited to witness some of the organization’s recent restoration work on Celeron and Sugar Islands, two wetland habitats that were severely damaged by high water and wind erosion over the last century.

The Detroit River holds a designation since 1987 as one of 43 Areas of Concern — AOC — throughout the Great Lakes. It’s a label given by the International Joint Commission to bodies of water in the region with severe environmental degradation.

Through centuries of industrial use, the river’s fish and wildlife populations, as well as their original habitats, have declined.

“We’ve lost probably 95% of our coastal wetlands, particularly on the Detroit side” of the river, Burns said.

“The real value of what we are fortunate to have in the Detroit River is these larger islands that have been pretty much vacant since the day they were constructed naturally; they’ve been owned by different individuals but were never really developed.”

Detroit River restorations go from ‘what if’ to reality

These days, habitats like Celeron and Sugar Island are publicly owned and managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as part of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge.

Over the last two decades, the FODR has partnered with federal, state, and local agencies to restore the remaining wetland in the area and remediate sediment that has accumulated along the river due to decades of legacy industrial pollution.

As early as the 1990s, the nonprofit worked with representatives from the U.S. Geology Society, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as well as state officials from the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy and Department of Natural Resources to identify “103 habitat restoration projects up and down the 32 miles of Detroit shoreline,” said Mary Bohling, vice chair of the FODR board.

“From the time that we were designated as an AOC back in the late 1980s, all the way until 2010 when the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative became available, we were working on ‘what if’ situations,” said Bohling. “What if we got money? What would we want to do?”

In 2010, the EPA launched the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, a federal program aimed at fixing up AOCs across the region. Of the original 103 projects the FODR brainstormed, the list dwindled to 14, with each intending to help restore local fish and wildlife populations and habitats, according to the Detroit River nonprofit’s staff.

As of 2025, all but one of those habitat restoration projects have been completed, with the total costs of restorations adding up to $50 million, riverkeeper Burns said. Efforts are underway to start the last one, but FDR still has more work to do.

As many as 4 million cubic yards of contaminated sediments rest at the bottom of the Detroit River, and the EPA estimates it would take until 2030 to completely clean up the PCBs, PAHs, and other contaminants.

To complete the toxic sediment cleanup efforts, the FODR is estimated by the EPA to need $1 billion. Of that amount, the organization will need to raise $350 million from local sources to receive the remaining federal dollars.

It’s a tall task, but one that the organization is committed to pursuing, even as recent staff turnover at the EPA and the political climate create some uncertainty.

“It’s been challenging to navigate decision making and what’s next,” said Tricia Blicharski, executive director of the FODR. “With the loss of staff, their time has become limited, so the engagement level that we had anticipated just hasn’t been the same, because of capacity.”

She added: “It’s just slowing things down, but it doesn’t change our priority.”

Detroit River nonprofit aims to strengthen wildlife habitat

Celeron Island

Cost: $8.4 million

Start Date: August 2013

End Date: December 2020

At one point in time, 8 acres of cattail wetland rested along Celeron Island. High water levels in the 1970s, and subsequently in the 1990s, washed them out.

“This was a really productive wetland here, and now it’s gone,” said Burns. “When you get shallow water and you’ve got wave action, you get turbulence, and that basically stops all the vegetation growing.”

When the FODR embarked on its habitat restoration project, the group wanted to preserve what was left, while ensuring longevity for the next 50 to 100 years, Burns said.

The waters surrounding and within Celeron Island are an important spawning and refuge area for local fish species, as well as an ideal resting spot for migratory birds.

Bob Burns, Detroit riverkeeper for the Friends of the Detroit River, discusses a recent habitat restoration project. Photo by Ethan Bakuli/Planet Detroit

“We really didn’t want to affect the island,” the riverkeeper said. “We wanted to try to create a system where hopefully over time the wetland would be able to build up a little bit if we could reduce that hydraulic flow and wave action coming in off the lake here.”

In order to do that, the FODR built a series of overlapping dikes around the island made up of stone.

Since the project’s completion, the island now boasts three-quarters of a mile of shoal along the outside of the island, and about another 2,000 feet of shoal on the north side. Those shoal areas, Burns said, returned vegetation to the area, and made the surrounding waters conducive for turtle nesting and a spawning ground for bass.

In early spring and late fall, he added, migratory birds such as cormorants, eagles, ospreys, and seagulls make the island their temporary home.

“If we wouldn’t have done this, eventually the entire wetland would be washed out and turned into two islands,” said Burns. “There’s about 29 acres of wetland in here that we’re protecting.”

Sugar Island

Cost: $18.6 million

Start Date: August 2017

Completion Date: August 2024

At one point home to an amusement park, Sugar Island remained dormant throughout much of the 20th century, changing hands until it was eventually taken over by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The 33-acre island owes its name to the numerous sugar maple trees that populated it at one time. In the last several decades, Sugar Island has faced significant erosion due to waves from Lake Erie, with trees falling into the water.

Now, through the project’s efforts, the island has five shoals sheltering the southern shoreline, creating a 10-acre pool for native vegetation and aquatic life.

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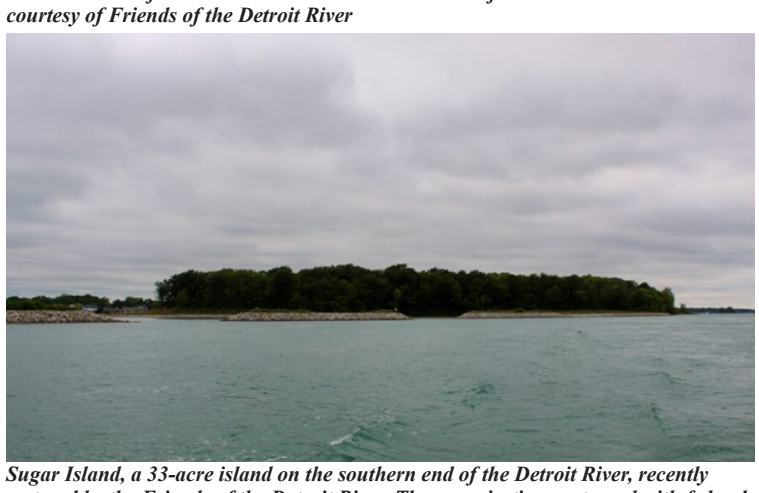
Ethan Bakuli is a Climate Solutions and Service Journalism Reporting Fellow. Bakuli joins the Planet Detroit team after covering education and community issues for Chalkbeat Detroit and working as a freelance journalist reporting on race and labor issues. Before launching his career as a reporter, he taught high school students how to produce audio and visual stories about their communities, an experience that cemented his belief in the power of community-led journalism.

An aerial view of Celeron Island on the southern end of the Detroit River. Photo courtesy of Friends of the Detroit River



Sugar Island, a 33-acre island on the southern end of the Detroit River, recently restored by the Friends of the Detroit River. The organization partnered with federal and local groups to develop shoals, shallow areas of water surrounded by walls made up of stone and sand, that could protect the island from water and wind erosion. Photo by Ethan Bakuli/Planet Detroit

An aerial view of Sugar Island shortly after the restoration project was completed in August 2024. Photo courtesy of the Friends of the Detroit River

Sheffield Touts 'Progressive' Agenda in Final Phase of Mayoral Race

by Malachi Barrett | Reprinted with permission from BridgeDetroit

Detroit mayoral candidate Mary Sheffield is flexing a "progressive, people-centered, anti-poverty" record in meetings with residents as the campaign shifts gears for the November general election.

Sheffield earned 51% of the mayoral primary vote, winning the vast majority of voting precincts as she vaulted ahead of eight opponents. She could become Detroit's first woman mayor if she beats rival Rev. Solomon Kinloch Jr., who finished second with 17% of the vote. Kinloch's campaign has also positioned the Triumph Church leader as a grassroots working-class champion, and they know there's ground to make up, but Sheffield took the initiative with a series of town hall meetings scheduled in each council district.

"No one can say I'm not available and you don't know what I stand for or don't have the opportunity to talk to me," Sheffield said Tuesday at the first meeting in Jamison Temple Baptist Church. "We are embarking on such an important moment in the history of Detroit and we need leadership that is present, leadership that doesn't feel entitled."

Sheffield said she's looking forward to intimate conversations with voters where she can dive deeper into her platform after having to deliver short soundbites at primary candidate forums. She had a back-and-forth discussion with around 20 residents Tuesday about her agenda for the future and unveiled a few fresh policy items like a strategic planning process in each City Council district — an idea that primary opponent Saunteel Jenkins had promoted during her campaign.

Sheffield earned 43,572 primary votes while Kinloch earned 14,893, leaving 27,506 people who voted for a candidate that's not on the November ballot. If they all went to Kinloch, it still wouldn't match Sheffield's primary vote total. But historically, a larger group of Detroiters turn out in November — 22,000 more voters cast ballots in the 2021 general election — which could give Kinloch room to grow support.

A Detroit News analysis of voting data showed Sheffield and Kinloch performed better in lower-income areas, while rival Jenkins outperformed Kinloch in higher-income areas. It also found Kinloch didn't win either precinct that contained a Triumph Church campus.

Who's progressive?

Kinloch is also competing with Sheffield for the progressive branding, arguing he's built a grassroots following and is focused on inequality. His campaign plans to make public safety and poverty top priorities.

Mayoral candidate Mary Sheffield held a February 4, 2025 campaign event at The Bridge Center Library in northwest Detroit. Photo courtesy 98Forward

Kinloch said an escalation of child gun victims this year is a sign of failed leadership. He's been critical of "institutional politicians" in his bid to turn his lack of government experience into an asset.

Rev. Solomon Kinloch Jr. Credit: Bridge photo

"Reportedly death and injury by gun fire is up almost 35% for our youth 18 and under. If the president of the City Council is calling her leadership on crime 'progressive' while our kids are being gunned down in the streets, her policies and leadership have failed us," Kinloch said in a statement to BridgeDetroit. "This cannot continue. We cannot have another bloody summer with thiskind of failed leadership. It's time for a change."

At the town hall, Sheffield said Detroit's downward crime trend "absolutely means nothing" when young people die in shootings. Sheffield wants to create an office of gun violence, boost funding for community violence intervention and mental health co-response programs, create more youth activities and safe spaces, and add neighborhood police officers.

"I don't think that we as a city spend enough time on intervention programs that are getting to the root cause of why violence is taking place in the first place," Sheffield said. "When we talk about public safety, it has to be a comprehensive and holistic approach. You can't police your way out of it. You have to provide myriad of services, and that's what you all can expect from me."

The council president said she has "the receipts" to demonstrate a 12-year record of "delivering tangible results through sound policy." She also has a long list of endorsements from union groups representing skilled trade workers, firefighters, janitors and service workers.

"Don't get it twisted," Sheffield said. "I know there's a lot of rhetoric going around right now. I've always been for the people. I have always stood for working class families. These endorsements solidify that. It shows you that I always have elevated everyday working people, and I'm excited to do that as mayor."

Sheffield secured Mayor Mike Duggan's support shortly after the primary, stacking an endorsement with heavy symbolism on her portfolio.

Duggan declared her as the most qualified and best prepared to carry on his project of growing the city, but the nod has also energized Duggan critics who detest the influence of corporate leaders. Sheffield has said, "You can be pro-people and pro-business at the same time."

Kinloch has said the endorsement is an attempted "coronation" of Sheffield by a political establishment that has failed to address the city's biggest problems. He's been endorsed by the UAW, and rallied with President Shawn Fain, along with AFSCME Michigan 925 and the 12th and 13th Democratic Party Districts.

"After 12 years on the Detroit City Council—and 4 more as Council President—if you haven't fixed it by now, you're not going to," Kinloch said in a statement issued just after Duggan's endorsement. "Detroit doesn't need recycled ideas or the same politics that have left too many neighborhoods behind. Detroit needs fresh leadership, with the courage to do what career politicians couldn't."

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City Council President Mary Sheffield gets an endorsement for the city's 2025 mayoral race from Mayor Mike Duggan. Credit: Mandi Wright/Detroit Free Press

Sheffield said Duggan's support demonstrates that there will be continuity between their administrations, and shows she's "ready day one to lead."

"It sends a loud message to Detroiters," Sheffield said. "But I will also say that we did a lot of work. We had over 50% of the vote without Mayor Duggan's endorsement and we want to make sure that is at the forefront. The mayor was very much so pleased with the race that we ran, and him coming in really solidifies the amount of work that we did and the amount of people we reached."

A BridgeDetroit review of campaign finance records shows Sheffield has already benefitted from some of the deep pockets that helped put Duggan in office.

She's taken tens of thousands of dollars in donations from people who supported Duggan's mayoral campaigns, like Ambassador Bridge owner Matthew Moroun, Detroit Pistons Vice Chairman Arn Tellem, a political committee tied to billionaire Dan Gilbert and dozens of contractors, real estate company owners and industry representatives.

The Sheffield plan

Sheffield said her policy platform is robust, and details are available on her campaign website. She's being advised by David Bowser, who previously served in the Duggan administration since 2017 on housing services, and said more conversations are being held with department heads and key figures. Bowser is now the campaign's Senior Policy Advisor.

Her plan for the first 100 days in office includes launching new departments for seniors and human, homeless and family services; offices of gun violence prevention, small business affairs, homeownership and housing rights; home repair and education task forces; and a regional transit working group. Sheffield also wants to hire a

City Council President Mary Sheffield gets an endorsement for the city's 2025 mayoral race from Mayor Mike Duggan. Credit: Mandi Wright | Detroit Free Press

chief growth officer focused on population gains.

"A lot of what we're proposing is really restructuring how we create an office under an existing department, shifting things within city government the same way the mayor did," Sheffield said. "(Duggan) created the Department of Neighborhoods. That was brand new. He created new things within the existing structure and that's what we're going to do."

Housing is a major part of her platform. Sheffield wants to create 1,000 affordable single-family homes, increase down payment assistance funding and strengthen the city's eviction legal defense program.

"The greatest need for housing in Detroit is for an individual that makes $30,000 and below," Sheffield said. "When we talk about affordable housing, we have to make sure that we're building housing that actually meets the income needs of our residents."

Sheffield said she supports the creation of rent control ordinances, though it's currently prohibited by Michigan law. She expects to release a plan for alley lighting and study the cost of consistently cleaning alleys, particularly for seniors who can't clear debris themselves.

Raising wages is also important to ensuring residents have affordable housing, she said. Sheffield wants to set a "Detroit first mentality" where city contractors hire residents.

"Look at former Mayor Young, It was a culture that he said 'come to Detroit.' This is what we expect," Sheffield said. "We've always kind of operated from the scarcity mindset. We want (employers) to come here, but we also want to keep that Detroit first mentality, ensuring that we are prioritizing livable wages jobs."

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Detroit City Council President Mary Sheffield and the Rev. Solomon Kinloch will face off in the Nov. 4 general election for Detroit mayor. Credit: BridgeDetroit photos by Malachi Barrett

Kinloch's platform includes creating a department of opportunity and empowerment to coordinate financial assistance programs and establishing a children's trust fund that can be used for secondary education, starting a business or buying a home. His website includes other pledges to build 10,000 affordable housing units, expand rental assistance, boost home repair and down payment programs, cut regulations to start businesses, reduce blight and invest in public spaces.

Sheffield said the city is in a great position to center investment in neighborhoods. She wants to designate community anchor institutions like churches and nonprofits that will receive funding to revitalize their surroundings. She proposed restoring "neighborhood city halls" where residents can visit to access public resources.

Constituents still tell Sheffield they face long wait times for city buses. She supports increasing bus driver pay and creating a discounted fare for low-income residents.

"My main priority is to increase frequency on the routes, ensure that there's more reliability of our service and ensure that we're expanding service and routes to the areas that need it most," she said. "Sometimes it's frowned upon if you catch public transit, but if you go to Chicago or New York it's normal. We have a lot to do to change the culture of public transportation, the stigma around it, and also boosting the morale of our drivers."

Like most community meetings, the Tuesday town hall was a sounding board for frustrations about the Detroit Land Bank Authority. Sheffield is in favor of making reforms to improve transparency and prevent the land bank from taking back properties that aren't rehabilitated along its timeline.

"My position, for those who are asking, is not to dismantle the land bank, but to make major reforms," Sheffield said. "I do believe that they serve a purpose. They have a lot of legal rights and authorities that the city does not have, that we can utilize them for. I do agree with most Detroiters that it is extremely difficult to work with the land bank, they oftentimes seem unfair in their practices. There's been a lot of situations where I've actually seen residents who are actually trying to make improvements, and the land bank was still trying to take the property from them."

Mary Sheffield announces a town hall schedule for mayoral campaign. Credit: BridgeDetroit photo by Malachi Barrett

City Council President Mary Sheffield and the Rev. Solomon Kinloch will face off in the November 4 general election for Detroit mayor. Credit: BridgeDetroit photos by Malachi Barrett

Sheffield's campaign scheduled additional town halls on the following dates:

Sept. 10: District 1 event from 6-7:30 p.m. *Citadel Of Praise, 20280 Lyndon St., Detroit*
Sept. 17: District 6 event from 6-7:30 p.m. *Basilica of Sainte Anne de Detroit, 1000 St Anne St.*
Oct. 2: District 2 event from 6-7:30 p.m. *Location to be announced.*
Oct. 9: District 7 event from 6-7:30 p.m. *Location to be announced.*
Oct. 23: District 3 event from 6-7:30 p.m. *Location to be announced.*
Oct. 30: District 5 event from 6-7:30 p.m. *Location to be announced.*

Kinloch's campaign scheduled a rally

Sept. 6: *at Cass Technical High School*
focused on mobilizing women voters. It features Kinloch's wife Robin, Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy, former U.S. Rep. Brenda Lawrence, Detroit comedian CoCo and DJ Rue.

Malachi Barrett is a mission-oriented reporter working to liberate information for Detroiters. Barrett previously worked at MLive newspapers in Muskegon, Kalamazoo, Lansing and Detroit. He was named Michigan's 2019 Newspaper Rising Star by the Associated Press. Barrett graduated from Central Michigan University in 2016.

Barrett lives in Pingree Park on the eastside with his wife. He grew up in Southwest Michigan but spent childhood years in California, Wisconsin, Virginia, South Carolina and Japan. His inbox is always open for news tips and pictures of Spider-Man. mbarrett@bridgedetroit.com

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EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS
Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

Freshman Bryce Underwood Leads Wolverines To Victory

Photos by Adam J. Dewey

This past Saturday, the #14 University of Michigan Wolverines (1-0), hosted the New Mexico Lobos (0-1), under the lights at the Big House, in front of 110,648 fans.

The Wolverines defeated the Lobos 34 - 17.

Freshman QB #19 Bryce Underwood was 21 for 31 for 251 yards and 1 TD.

They travel to take on #18 Oklahoma Sooners (1-0), on Saturday, September 6th at 7:30 pm (ABC), before returning back to the Big House, to host Central Michigan Chippewas, on Saturday, September 13th, at 12:00 pm (Big Ten Network).

Photos below are highlights from the Wolverines vs Lobos game

Justice Hayes (#22) leaps into the end zone to score his second of three touchdowns on the day

Marlin Klein (#17) breaks a tackle to make a first down. Klein also scored 1 TD during the game

Channing Goodwin (#9) races upfield for 39 yards on a reception from Bryce Underwood

Jaishawn Barham (#1) sacks New Mexico QB Jack Layne. The play was reviewed to check for a fumble that ended in Barham being ejected for a questionable targeting call

Bryce Underwood (#19) completes a pass to tight end Marlin Klein (#17). Underwood was 21 for 31 for 251 yards and 1 TD

Michigan head coach Sherrone Moore shouts in an adjustment to the offense. Sherrone Moore will be facing his old college team, as he leads his Wolverines to Oklahoma

Justice Haynes (#22) and Bryce Underwood (#19) take in their Michigan debuts and the 34-17 victory over New Mexico, two of the emerging stars from the game

DCFC Battle To Draw

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

Pateando la No. 5

SPORTS

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

Last Saturday's 1-1 draw against San Antonio FC may not be remembered as the Battle of Keyworth, but over 6,200 fans packed into the old building poured plenty of venom into the visitors as they tried to get the better of Le Rouge on the scoreboard and in physical confrontations. With the calendar turning over from August to September, teams are battling to make the playoffs and set themselves up for a potential run at the title. The combatants at Keyworth found themselves in roughly the same spot going into the game and little changed coming out of it.

That is not to say nothing was gained or lost. Detroit City fans finally got their captain back. After a disjointed first half in which the hosts conceded a penalty kick and looked out of sorts in defense, Stephen Carroll came out to a warm welcome for the second half. Matt Sheldon deputized manfully in Carroll's absence, even winning recognition from the league when the Team of the Week has been published. But, the team performs better when the key parts are in their proper places.

Unfortunately, news came out during the week that Rhys Williams has joined Ben Morris with a season-ending injury. To replace Williams, DCFC acquired midfielder Isaiah LeFlore from the Philadelphia Union of MLS on loan. LeFlore made his club debut in the second half and added a spark to the left wing.

Carroll's arrival to start the second half inspired the crowd and the team. Trailing 0-1, they could not afford to lose and assumed control of the game. While DCFC targeted an equalizer, the fans targeted whoever was closest to the East Stand. As the chippiness on the field increased, so did the volume from the Northern Guard and everyone near them. It built up to a crescendo as Kobe Hernandez-Foster lined up a free kick just outside the San Antonio penalty area. He struck a fierce left-footed drive into the top corner of the goal, leaving goalkeeper Daniel Namani staring in disbelief. That brought about an explosion of joy from the home support.

With Keyworth rocking, DCFC piled on the pressure. Haruki Yamazaki had a shot when he cut in from the right wing. Several corners produced near misses. Ates Diouf whiffed on the clearest opportunity when presented with a perfect ball on the penalty spot.

The visitors had trouble containing DCFC's attack, something that hasn't happened often over the last three months. They resorted to fouling, accumulating a total of 22 during the game. Some of those fouls riled up the DCFC players, who objected to the roughhousing tactics. Several scuffles ensued; one battle in front of the DCFC bench brought almost all 22 players together and resulted in several yellow cards, including DCFC Academy player Bilal Obeid who was on the bench. Even after the final whistle, the teams continued their disagreements. It took several minutes for the players to be separated on the way to the dressing rooms. San Antonio earned no fewer than seven yellow cards.

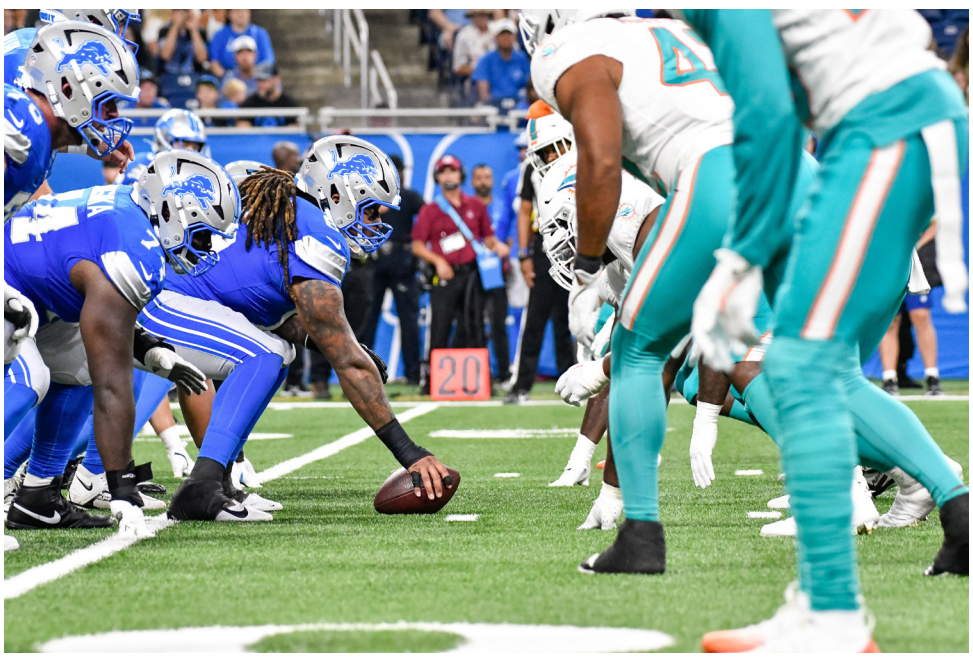
Now that Stephen Carroll has returned to the field from his two-month absence, the team is as strong as it will be for the rest of the season. However, they dropped a lot of points while his knee recuperated, including the two left on the field last Saturday. To move up the USL Eastern Conference table, they have to win games. Orange County will be at Keyworth on Saturday as DCFC completes their three game homestand. The draw with San Antonio kept DCFC in 6th place, five points behind 3rd place Loudoun United as the race for home field tightens. Hartford, with four wins and a draw in their last five game are just ahead of DCFC with a game in hand. Pittsburgh is right behind Le Rouge. Every game for the rest of the season will be crucial.

Upcoming Boxing and Detroit Lions Start Season On The Road

Detroit Lions photos by Adam J Dewey

The Detroit Lions are getting ready to start the 2025 NFL season, on the road, taking on the Green Bay Packers, Sunday, September 6th at 4:25 pm (CBS).
The Lions home opener at Ford Field, is Sunday, September 14th, hosting the Chicago Bears, at 1:00 pm (FOX), before going back on the road.
Bridges Beyond Boxing will be hosted at Bert's Warehouse, this Friday, September 5th, to showcase Detroit vs. Ireland.

Photos below are highlights from the Detroit Lions pre-season game against the Miami Dolphins and Bridges Beyond Boxing Detroit vs. Ireland ad



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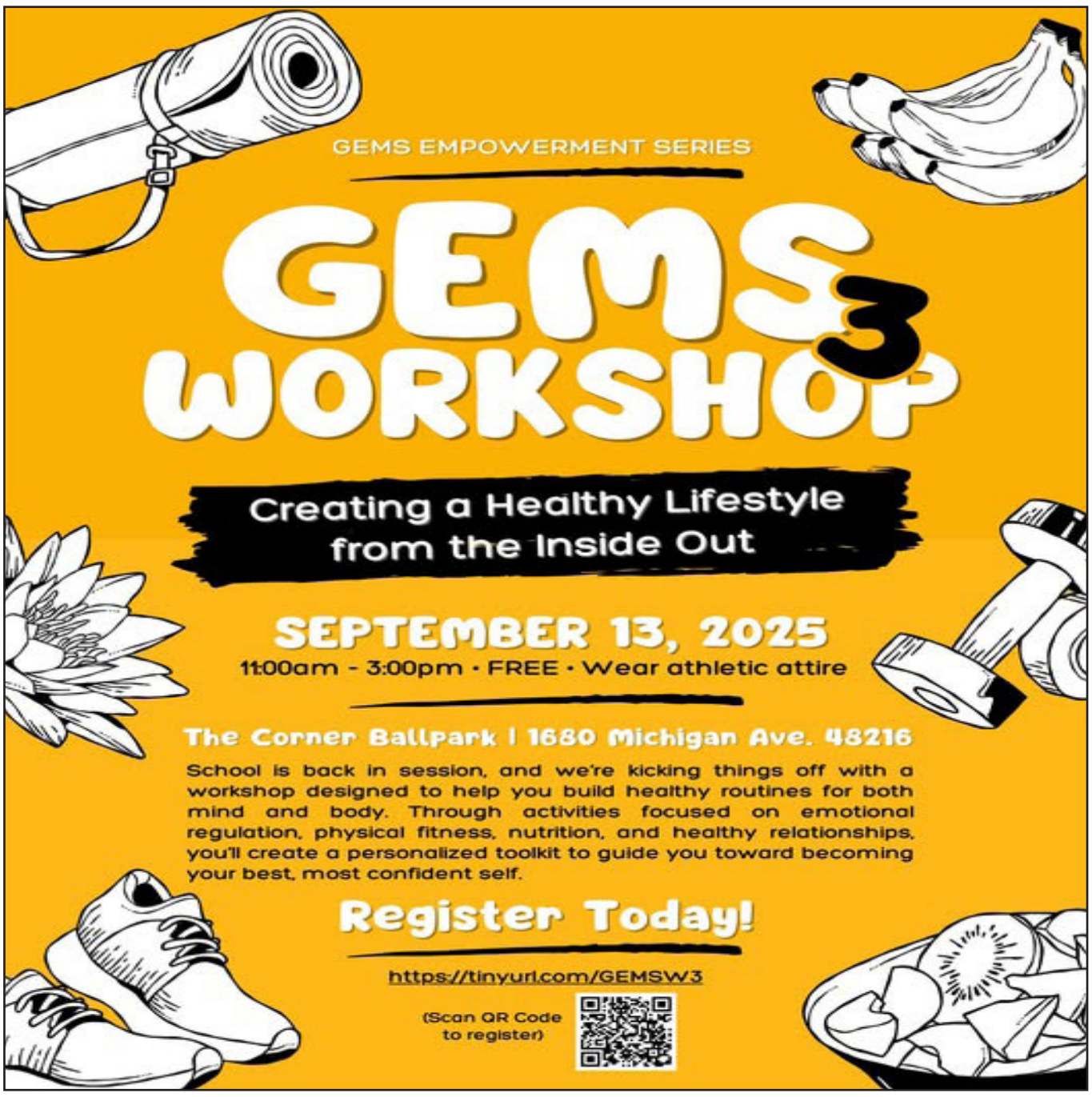
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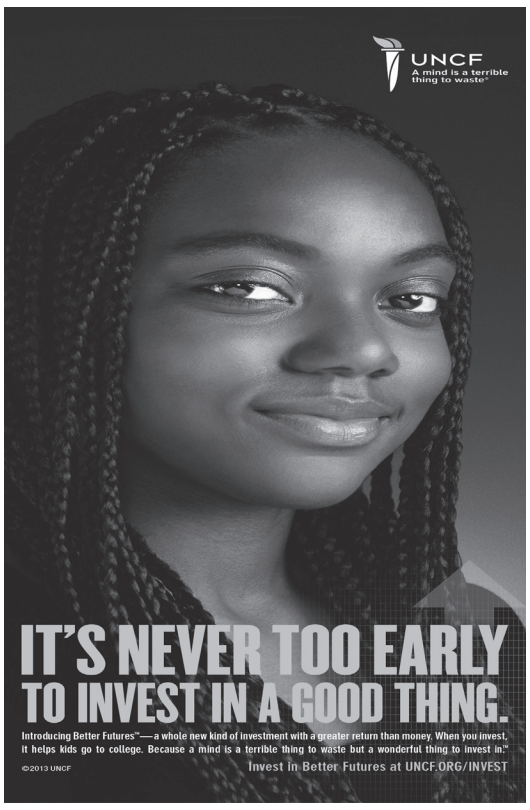
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Guest Opinion:

The "Woke" Myth: Who should decide what we see, read, and learn?

By Robert Reich

"The Museums throughout Washington, but all over the Country are, essentially, the last remaining segment of 'WOKE,'" Trump wrote recently on his Truth Social. "The Smithsonian is OUT OF CONTROL, where everything discussed is how horrible our Country is, how bad Slavery was, and how unaccomplished the downtrodden have been — Nothing about Success, nothing about Brightness, nothing about the Future."

So, Trump has ordered that the Smithsonian replace "divisive or ideologically driven language with unifying, historically accurate and constructive descriptions."

JD Vance calls American universities "fundamentally corrupt" and has referred to them as "the enemy." In his 2021 speech at the National Conservatism Conference, Vance stated that universities "control the knowledge in our society" and promote "deceit and lies" rather than truth, and he pledged to "aggressively attack" these institutions to reform what he sees as their left-wing ideological domination.

So, the Trump regime has attacked Harvard, Columbia, and many other institutions of higher learning and is withholding government funds until they agree to the Trump regime's terms for deciding what they teach.

Trump has for years condemned what he terms the "liberal bias" in the media, calling journalists the "enemy within."

So, he has defunded PBS, NPR, the Voice of America, and Radio Free Europe. He has sued ABC and CBS. His Federal Communications Commission refused to allow CBS's parent company, Paramount, to be sold until CBS purged itself of commentary and programming critical of Trump, including Stephen Colbert's late-night comedy show.

Are Trump and Vance correct that museums, universities, and the media have a left-wing "woke" bias? It's the wrong question. It's the question Trump would like everyone to be asking, but it obscures the more important question: Should government be determining the content of museums, universities, and the media? Or should the responsibility rest with these institutions?

Logically, someone has to decide what a museum will display; usually this is left to people known as "curators." Someone has to decide what courses universities will offer; usually this is left to university professors and professional staff. Someone in media corporations has to decide what stories they're going to report and which news items they'll feature as important; usually these decisions are left to managing editors and senior producers.

We'd be concerned if wealthy donors or advertisers played roles in these choices, because their economic interests may conflict with our interests as members of the public in learning the truth.

We'd also be concerned if politicians played roles in such choices, because their interests in remaining in power may conflict with our interests in learning the truth.

Better that professional museum curators, university faculties, and managing editors and producers make those choices because they're "unbiased" in the sense that they don't have ulterior motives.

The issue isn't any mythological left-wing "woke." It's trust that potential conflicts of interest don't determine content.

We wouldn't and shouldn't trust what we learn from a museum curated by Trump and his lapdogs, or a university whose curriculum and faculty

were influenced by them, or a media corporation under their patronage. Why? Because Trump and his lapdogs would want to promote themselves and their views and censor anything critical of them.

Just as many readers are now suspicious of the editorial page of The Washington Post because the paper's owner, Jeff Bezos, has censored pieces critical of Trump — and many worry about CBS News because the network's new owner, David Ellison, has promised Trump's FCC that its news coverage will reflect "varied ideological perspectives" — we have reason to worry that the museums, universities, and media with which Trump is "negotiating" will censor themselves from writing anything critical of Trump for fear of offending him.

We don't trust Trump because he has shown a brazen disregard for the truth.

But we shouldn't trust any administration to decide what museums, universities, or the media tell us. It's not a matter of right or left or "woke." It's about the political independence of truth-tellers.

A free people needs to know things that an administration may not want them to know and must be able to trust that the agents of truth — museums, universities, the media — are not compromised.

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A gentle reminder that my new memoir, Coming Up Short, can be found wherever you buy books. You can also support local bookstores nationally by ordering the book at bookshop.org.

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

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Opinión de un Invitado:

El mito del "woke": ¿quién debería decidir qué vemos, leemos y aprendemos?

Por Robert Reich

"Los museos de Washington, pero también de todo el país, son, en esencia, el último segmento restante de la conciencia de la sociedad", escribió Trump recientemente en Truth Social. "El Smithsonian está FUERA DE CONTROL, donde todo lo que se discute gira en torno a lo horrible que es nuestro país, lo terrible que fue la esclavitud y lo infructuosos que han sido los oprimidos: nada sobre el éxito, nada sobre la brillantez, nada sobre el futuro".

Por lo tanto, Trump ha ordenado que el Smithsonian reemplace "el lenguaje divisivo o ideológico por descripciones unificadoras, históricamente precisas y constructivas".

JD Vance califica a las universidades estadounidenses de "fundamentalmente corruptas" y se ha referido a ellas como "el enemigo". En su discurso de 2021 en la Conferencia Nacional de Conservadurismo, Vance afirmó que las universidades "controlan el conocimiento en nuestra sociedad" y promueven "el engaño y la mentira" en lugar de la verdad, y se comprometió a "atacar agresivamente" a estas instituciones para reformar lo que él considera su dominio ideológico de izquierda.

Así pues, el régimen de Trump ha atacado a Harvard, Columbia y muchas otras instituciones de educación superior, y está reteniendo fondos gubernamentales hasta que acepten las condiciones impuestas por el régimen de Trump para decidir qué enseñar.

Trump lleva años condenando lo que él llama el "sesgo liberal" en los medios, llamando a los periodistas el "enemigo interno".

Así pues, ha retirado la financiación de PBS, NPR, la Voz de América y Radio Europa Libre. Ha demandado a ABC y CBS. La Comisión Federal de Comunicaciones (FCC) se negó a permitir la venta de Paramount, la empresa matriz de CBS, hasta que CBS se deshiciera de los comentarios y la programación críticos con Trump, incluyendo el programa de comedia nocturno de Stephen Colbert.

¿Tienen razón Trump y Vance al afirmar que los museos, las universidades y los medios de comunicación tienen un sesgo progresista de izquierda? Es la pregunta equivocada. Es la pregunta que Trump querría que todos se hicieran, pero oscurece la pregunta más importante: ¿Debería el gobierno determinar el contenido de los museos, las universidades y los medios de comunicación? ¿O debería recaer la responsabilidad en estas instituciones?

Lógicamente, alguien tiene que decidir qué exhibirá un museo; generalmente, esto se deja en manos de los conocidos como "curadores". Alguien tiene que decidir qué cursos ofrecerán las universidades; generalmente, esto se deja en manos de profesores universitarios y personal profesional. Alguien en las corporaciones mediáticas tiene que decidir qué historias van a reportar y qué noticias presentarán como importantes; generalmente, estas decisiones se dejan en manos de los editores ejecutivos y productores senior.

Nos preocuparía que donantes o anunciantes adinerados influyeran en estas decisiones, ya que sus intereses económicos podrían entrar en conflicto con nuestros intereses como ciudadanos en conocer la verdad.

También nos preocuparía que los políticos influyeran en tales decisiones, ya que sus intereses en permanecer en el poder podrían entrar en conflicto con nuestros intereses en conocer la verdad.

Es mejor que los conservadores profesionales de museos, el profesorado universitario, los editores ejecutivos y los productores tomen esas decisiones, ya que son "imparciales" en el sentido de que no tienen segundas intenciones.

El problema no es ningún izquierdista "woke" mitológico. Se trata de confiar en que los posibles conflictos de intereses no determinen el contenido.

No confiaríamos, ni deberíamos confiar, en lo que aprendemos de un museo dirigido por Trump y sus secuaces, ni de una universidad cuyo currículum y profesorado fueron influenciados por ellos, ni de una corporación mediática bajo su patrocinio. ¿Por qué? Porque Trump y sus secuaces querrían promocionarse a sí mismos y a sus opiniones, y censurar cualquier crítica hacia ellos.

Así como muchos lectores desconfían ahora de la página editorial de The Washington Post porque su propietario, Jeff Bezos, ha censurado artículos críticos con Trump —y muchos se preocupan por CBS News porque el nuevo propietario de la cadena, David Ellison, ha prometido a la FCC de Trump que su cobertura informativa reflejará "perspectivas ideológicas diversas"—, tenemos motivos para preocuparnos de que los museos, universidades y medios de comunicación con los que Trump está "negociando" se autocensuren y no publiquen nada crítico con Trump por miedo a ofenderlo.

No confiamos en Trump porque ha demostrado un descarado desprecio por la verdad.

Pero no deberíamos confiar en que ninguna administración decida lo que nos dicen los museos, las universidades o los medios de comunicación. No se trata de derecha, izquierda o "conciencia". Se trata de la independencia política de quienes dicen la verdad.

Un pueblo libre necesita saber cosas que una administración podría no querer que sepa y debe poder confiar en que los agentes de la verdad —museos, universidades, medios de comunicación— no se vean comprometidos.

*****

Un pequeño recordatorio: mis nuevas memorias, "Coming Up Short", se pueden encontrar en cualquier tienda de libros. También puedes apoyar a las librerías locales de todo el país pidiendo el libro en bookshop.org.

Las opiniones expresadas en esta columna no son necesariamente las del editor o redactor

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SPECIAL WORLD'S CULTURES

Mayas Zoque – Ayapanecos Numte oote

Mayas Zoque - Ayapanecos Numte oote

The Ayapanecos live in Ayapa, a community in the municipality of Jalpa de Méndez, whose municipal seat is located 33 kilometers from Villahermosa, Tabasco. Ayapa is an ancient Zoque town located in the coastal plain of Tabasco, between the Mezcalapa-Grijalva river and the sea front of the Gulf of Mexico, near the Cuxcuxapa river.

Due to its proximity to the seafront from the Gulf of Mexico, the region has intense warm temperatures with high humidity levels. The annual average temperature is 26.42°C. Its habitat is currently characterized by the variety of species related to high cocoa plantations, where fruit and timber trees abound.

It is said that they descend from the Olmecs who emigrated to Chiapas and Oaxaca, where they mostly settled. In pre-Hispanic times, the zoques inhabited a wide area of Chiapas, extending to the Isthmus of Tehuantepec and part of the state of Tabasco.

They had good social and commercial dealings with the Mexica, which helped the economic prosperity of their culture in Chiapas.

The traditional dress is practically only worn by women, and on special occasions. Some very old men in the more remote communities wear white blanket shirts. The women wear a white blouse with short sleeves embroidered at the neck and a long poplin skirt in various colors.

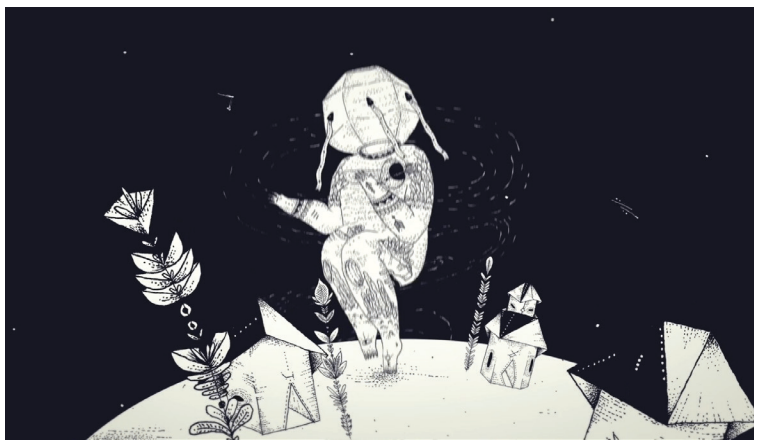
The houses are mostly rectangular with one or two rooms, with walls made of low stone or adobe whitewashed inside and out. The floors are made of earth, the hipped roofs of tile or straw. In the municipal capitals the constructions are made of cement.

The festivals dedicated to the saints occupy a central role in the spirituality of the people of Ayapa, for this reason a lot of time and resources are invested to carry them out. People from the community and neighboring communities participate in these festivals. The most important festival is that of San Miguel, which is celebrated on September 29.

The patron saint festivities are very important within the annual cycle of celebrations, since they represent the moment in which the community reaffirms itself as a group before the other populations and allows the consolidation of identities both at the regional and local level. The central role of these celebrations is the meeting of the divinity with the community, which takes place over the approximate ten days that the festivities last.

Sigue cada semana en
EL CENTRAL Hispanic News
ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,
by Mariana Ayón RV

Short Story Maya Zoque Ayapaneco about the Wind



Back then there was a drunk man who fall down wherever he went. He even got inside some houses.

One day, he stepped on a cornfield and destroyed it.

He went on and knocked down whatever was on his way: trees, houses, and every parcel of land.

He was considered a worker in this world because that drunk man became the wind, that's why now the wind wanders around as he pleases. Just like the drunk man who used to destroyed everything on its way.

Since then, that drunk man is the wind we feel.

Recipe: Chorote

Chorote is a drink that is prepared with a fermented nixtamal dough and ground cocoa. For fermentation, they serve it in a long, oval clay container called apaste. They let it sit for the morning.

Ingredients

1 ½ liter water
100 grams roasted and ground cocoa
200 grams corn dough
200 grams sugar

Preparation

Heat the water in a saucepan and when it starts to boil, add the cocoa along with the corn dough and sugar. Don't stop stirring the mixture. You can add more water if you are looking for a lighter consistency. Remove from the heat and pass it through a strainer. You can serve it in small gourds or glasses with ice.

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

Mayas Zoque – Ayapanecos Numte oote

Mayas Zoque - Ayapanecos Numte oote

Los Ayapanecos habitan en Ayapa, son una comunidad del municipio de Jalpa de Méndez, cuya cabecera municipal se ubica a 33 kilómetros de Villahermosa, Tabasco.

Los Ayapanecos son una antigua población Zoque ubicada en la llanura costera de Tabasco, entre el río Mezcalapa-Grijalva y el frente marino del Golfo de México, cerca del río Cuxcuxapa.

Por su cercanía con el frente marino proveniente del Golfo de México, la región presenta temperaturas cálidas intensas con altos índices de humedad. La temperatura media anual es de 26.42 °C. Su hábitat actualmente se caracteriza por la variedad de especies relacionadas con las altas plantaciones cacaoteras, donde abundan árboles frutales y maderables.

Se dice que descienden de los olmecas que emigraron a Chiapas y Oaxaca, donde se establecieron en su mayoría. En la época prehispánica, los zoques habitaban una amplia zona de Chiapas, extendiéndose hasta el Istmo de Tehuantepec y parte del estado de Tabasco. Tuvieron buenos tratos sociales y comerciales con los mexicas, lo que ayudó a la prosperidad económica de su cultura en Chiapas.

El vestido tradicional prácticamente sólo lo usan las mujeres, y en ocasiones especiales. Algunos hombres muy ancianos en las comunidades más apartadas usan camisa de manta blanca. Las mujeres usan blusa blanca de manga corta bordada en el cuello y falda larga de popelina en diversos colores.

Las viviendas son en su mayoría rectangulares

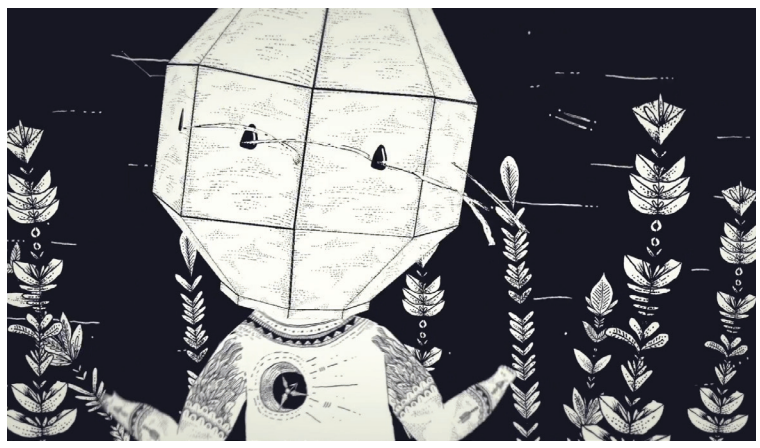
de uno o dos cuartos, con paredes de bajareque o adobe encaladas por dentro y por fuera. Los pisos son de tierra, los techos de cuatro aguas de teja o paja. En las cabeceras municipales las construcciones son de cemento.

Las fiestas dedicadas a los santos ocupan un papel central en la espiritualidad del pueblo de Ayapa, por tal motivo se invierte mucho tiempo y recursos para realizarlas. En estas fiestas participa gente de la comunidad y de comunidades vecinas.

La fiesta más importante es la de San Miguel, que se celebra el 29 de septiembre. Las fiestas patronales son muy importantes dentro del ciclo anual de celebraciones, ya que representan el momento en que la comunidad se reafirma como grupo ante las demás poblaciones y permiten consolidar identidades tanto a nivel regional como local. El papel central de estas celebraciones es el encuentro de la divinidad con la comunidad, el cual se realiza a lo largo de los diez días aproximados que duran las fiestas.

Tell them you saw it in Diles que lo viste en
EL CENTRAL
Hispanic News

Cuento Maya Zoque Ayapaneco del Viento



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Un día, entró en un sembradío y barrió con toda la milpa.

Siguió y tiró todo lo que encontró: árboles, casas y todo lo que estaba sembrado.

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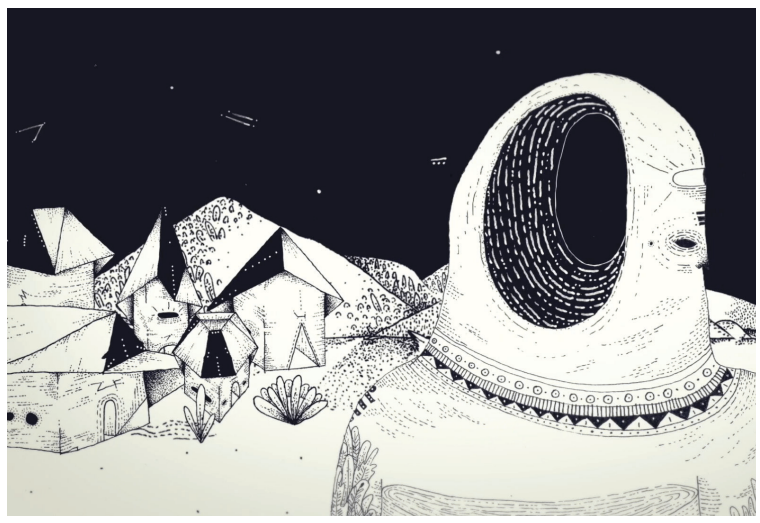


Receta Chorote

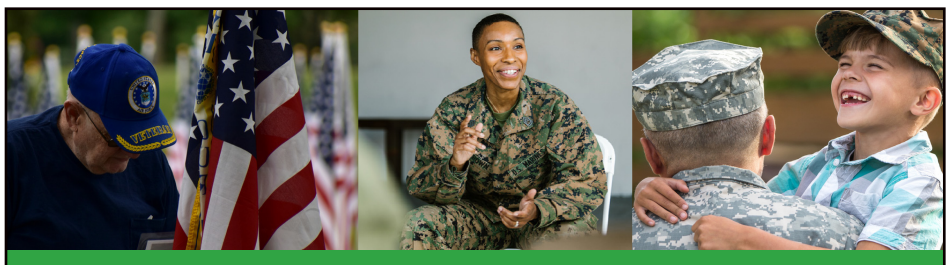
El chorote es una bebida que se prepara con un fermentado de masa de nixtamal y cacao molido. Para la fermentación lo sirven en un recipiente de barro ovalado y largo, llamado apaste. Lo dejan reposar durante la mañana.

Ingredientes

1 ½ litro agua
100 gramos cacao tostado y molido
200 gramos masa de maíz
200 gramos azúcar

Preparación

Calienta el agua en una cacerola y cuando empiece a hervir, agrega el cacao junto con la masa de maíz y el azúcar. No dejes de mover la mezcla. Puedes añadir más agua si buscas una consistencia más ligera. Retira del fuego y pásala por un colador. Se sirve con hielos en pequeñas jícaras o vasos.



Thank you to those who have served!

Veterans & Community Resource Event

When:
Monday, September 15, 2025
9:00a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Where:
Madison Heights City Hall
260 W. 13 Mile Rd
Madison Heights, 48071

Highlights:
Behavioral health information, connect to VA resources, free Narcan kit, gift cards and lunch! Vendors welcome!

Veterans, community members, & vendors can register at the QR code above or by clicking here

Questions?
Contact OCHN Veteran Navigator Chaka McDonald at 248-764-4443 or mcdonaldc@oaklandchn.org
5505 Corporate Drive
Troy, MI 48098
248-858-1210
www.oaklandchn.org
Oakland Community Health Network
Developmental Disabilities - Mental Health - Substance Recovery

MDHHS Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

Veteran Navigators Walking with Warriors

YOUR ADVENTURE BEGINS HERE!

NEW! Wicked Wand Workshop
NEW! Ninja Warrior Challenge

Open Weekends Aug 16 - Sept 28 Plus Sept 1 & Sept 26

2025 Michigan Renaissance Festival

248.634.5552 | MichRenFest.com

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De la oficina del Tesorero del Condado de Wayne,
Eric R. Sabree

PUEDE AYUDARLO CON EL PROCESO DE ASISTENCIA CON SUCESIONES

¿Se enfrenta a una ejecución hipotecaria y necesita ayuda para iniciar un proceso de sucesiones en el Tribunal de Sucesiones del Condado de Wayne porque una propiedad está a nombre de un familiar fallecido?

COMUNÍQUESE CON UNO DE NUESTROS SOCIOS COMUNITARIOS:

Michigan Legal Services: 313-964-4130
MILegalServices.org

United Community Housing Coalition: 313-725-4560
UCHCDetroit.org

Lakeshore Legal Aid: 888-783-8190
LakeshoreLegalAid.org

www.Treasurer.WayneCounty.com
313-224-5990

¡Estamos aquí para ayudarle!